(b) Full compensation as per law is paid to the land owners on acquisition of land.

(c) Rate of compensation varies from case to case depending, *inter alia*, on the following factors:

i) Classification of land,

ii) Year of acquisition,

iii) Site of land,

iv) Location of village where the land is situated,

v) Access to irrigation,

vi) Proximity to commercial centres,

vii) Status of basic infrastructure in the area etc.

The total expenditure incurred by WCL against acquisition of land till February, 2000 works out to Rs. 7,247.84 lakhs

(d) to (f) As per the Resettlement & Rehabilitation policy of Coal India Limited, WCL has been offering one employment to each land oustee family losing minimum 3 acres of non-irrigated land or 2 acres of irrigated land either to self or lineal eligible dependent nominee of the oustee, except in cases of disputes among family members and consequent non submission of suitable nomination.

Per Capita consumption of zinc

4795. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) the per-capita consumption of zinc in the country at present;

(b) whether the demand of zinc is increasing in view of the increased industrial activities in the country;

(c) if so, the steps taken to meet the growing need of zinc;

(d) whether the Hindustan Zinc Ltd. (HZL) has any proposal for expansion of mining activities in order to increase production;

(e) what other steps are being taken by Government to meet the increasing demand of zinc; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) The per capita consumption of zinc in the country at present is estimated at 0.26 Kg. per annum.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) is expanding the existing installed capacities of Vizag Smelter in Andhra Pradesh and Debari Smelter in Rajasthan by 10,000 tonnes per annum each.

(d) HZL plans to expand its Rampura Agucha Mine from existing level of 4500 tonnes per day (tpd) to 6000 tpd.

(e) and (f) HZL plans to set up a new Zinc Smelter of 1,00,000 tonnes per annum capacity at Kapasan, Chittorgarh, Rajasthan.

Railways Freight Concession for Limestone

†4796. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the superior quality limestone which is very essential for steel plants is available in abundance in the Sanu region of Rajasthan;

(b) whether the concession given in railway freight has been gradually reduced in the last year as a result of which mining has come on the verge of closure;

(c) whether thousands of families will be rendered jobless as a result thereof and previous foreign exchange will have to be spent on the import of this mineral; and

(d) what concrete measures are being taken to improve this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Superior quality limestone with low silica content (below 1.5% SiO_2) essential for steel plants is available in Sanu region of Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The major producers of SMS grade limestone, viz. Rajasthan State Mineral Development Corporation Limited (RSMDC) and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.